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requirements that clays must meet. Processes and up-to-date machines are concisely described and are illustrated from photographs.

The remainder of the book (nearly half of the whole) is devoted to a particularly valuable and compendious, though brief, description of the occurrence, properties and uses of the clays found in the different States. Under each State the clays are grouped according to geologic formations, since such an arrangement permits greater uniformity in presentation than does a grouping by kinds. At the end of the discussion of each State there is a selected bibliography pertaining to that State, which enables the interested reader to pursue his studies as far as the literature will carry him.

The book is gotten up in attractive style, with clear type and good paper. The illustrations consist of forty-four half-tone plates, most of which bear two figures, and sixty-five text illustrations, and add much to the value of the book. Greater variety in the type used for headings, particularly in the chapters on distribution, would have aided ready reference to the subject matter.

E. O. H.

Switzerland, the Country and its People. Written by Clarence Rook, Painted by Effie Jardine. 8vo. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons. London, Chatto & Windus, 1907.

The, mostly colored, illustrations (full-page) are generally good. To some, they may appear too "impressionistic," to others the tints may not seem subdued enough. But they are certainly creditable to the skill and taste of the artist. There is one grave and very regrettable mistake in the title to one of the views, that of the Matterhorn facing page 264. "The Matterhorn, from Grindelwald," must be a surprise to anybody who knows something about location of the two points and their distance from each other. Grindelwald lies on the northwestern base of the Bernese Alps, the Matterhorn rises on the Italian frontier, and a continuous chain of snowy mountains of 10 to 14 thousand feet in elevation rises between them. It is utterly impossible to see the Matterhorn from the northern base of the Bernese Alps, whereas it may be visible from a greater distance, as from some point of the crest of the Jura. We surmise the error, which is caused by an oversight in proof-reading, originated in the resemblance between the words "Matterhorn" and "Wetterhorn"; it is certainly not a mistake of the author's. But it should be corrected in later editions.

If anything is to be criticized in the general tone of the text, it is an excess in praise. Switzerland is undeniably a remarkable country, and its people have secured a position that is politically peculiar, but they are only human beings and have their defects and flaws. These defects Mr. Rook very kindly passes over, to a great extent.

In the United States Switzerland, that is, the Swiss people, and their evolution from four tiny mountain communities six hundred years ago into a reasonably-consolidated Republic, their political and social organization and achievements in intellectual progress are woefully unknown, or rather they are disregarded. It is assumed that nothing can be gained from acquaintance with the development of a people who make no noise in the world. The author of this book, an Englishman, has taken it to heart to show that this an entirely wrong impression, and, while he addresses himself to his countrymen (who are far more advanced in their knowledge of Switzerland than their American cousins), it would not be amiss if his statements were treasured on this side of the Atlantic. Switzerland is not merely an international pleasure-ground; it is a spot where a good deal may be learned of political management, economy, military organization, and especially education. A nation

whose sons and daughters, all without exception, are able to read and write, and the majority even in at least two languages, must enjoy an exceptionally thorough system of public instruction, for other branches are developed in the same proportion. The military budget of Switzerland does not exceed six millions of dollars per annum, and yet, in twenty-four hours' time, this nation of 3,250,000 can put 234,000 men in marching order, fully organized, armed and equipped; yet there is no standing army, and uniforms are rarely seen in the streets. Within a few days that number of fighting men can be increased to more than half a million, with proportionate artillery of the highest order. This presupposes a militia system not equalled in the world. Mr. Rook also says, and very justly: "If the best government is that which veils its activity with most success, if the art of government is to conceal its art, then Switzerland has achieved a triumph. . . . The machinery runs taut and true, and there is never encountered that terrible waste product, that clog to the wheels, the beggar. In Switzerland there may be here and there the extortionist and the unjust. No man demands money without offering a return, even though the return may not be the obvious equivalent. He is under a government he chooses for himself. . . . There is no parade of personal authority, no advertised individual pre-eminence, nor can the ordinary visitor recall the name of any single Swiss statesman who is greasing the wheels that turn so smoothly."

How this state of things was evolved the author attempts to tell in a review of the history of Switzerland. But, for a geographical publication, what he says of the country and its nature is of principal interest, and, furthermore, that country is the stage on which the history was enacted; hence it stands in intimate relation with the events of evolution. Mr. Rook, however, is very sparing—too sparing, we are afraid—of descriptions of nature and geographic information; he appears to rely mostly upon the illustrations for that part of his task; the *people* engross his attention, and there is such a wealth of literature on the geography of Switzerland that we may forgive him for his omission.

His treatment of Swiss history is, to say the least, very fair. Not to be too eulogistic and thus incur the reproach of partiality for the author, we will venture a few observations. He admits the truth of the Tell story, and he is right; but he also admits (what is equally true) that the connection of Tell with the uprising of what were in the thirteenth century, and to a certain extent to-day, called the "Waldstaetten" (literally forest *sites*), is a later addition to the original tale. Tell perished about fifty years previous to the expulsion of the bailiff Landenberg. His killing of Gessler was an act of private vengeance without political bearing. Manifestly erroneous, however, is the statement on page 25 that Aventicum was a "Roman capital of Helvetia" already before the wholesale immigration of the Celtic Swiss into southeastern France in 57 B. C. There were no Roman settlements on Helvetic soil previous to the battle of Bibracte (57), after which the Helvetians returned to Switzerland again, but as a conquered people, subject to the Romans. The destruction of Aventicum (Avenches, Wiflisburg in Swiss German) took place in 69 A. D., and by the Romans under Caecina, in punishment of the Helvetians for their opposition to Vitellius. When Vespasian became Emperor (69) it had just been destroyed. Nor is it correct that Zurich threw in its lot with the Forest Cantons "within a few weeks" after the formation of the original league in 1308. At the Battle of Morgarten, seven years after the uprising, men from Zurich fought on the Austrian side against Schwyz and her allies. At the Battle of Sempach (June 3d, 1386) the Austrian chivalry did not "rush upon" the Swiss. It was the Swiss who attacked, and the Austrian nobles received the onslaught on foot with their long

lances: had the knights charged on horseback, on the open meadow of Sempach, the Swiss might have fared very badly. Mr. Rook omits the important civil war between the inner Cantons and Zurich which culminated in the bloody battle of St. Jacob on the Sihl (1443), and nearly threw Zurich back into the arms of Austria, and had its last frightful echo on the banks of the Birs near Basle in 1444, in the battle of St. Jacob on the Birs, where 1,500 Swiss, with more ferocity than judgment, kept up a reckless attack on a French army of over 30,000 men with artillery, until only a dozen of their number were left alive.

The author's treatment of Swiss history, from the beginning of the sixteenth century on, is excellent. His picture of the sad period of the invasion by France (1798-99) could not be better. And his appreciation of the conduct of Napoleon, the personal episodes woven into the tale of general events, is of great interest. There is an air of actuality in the various scenes of Napoleon's deportment during his re-establishment of the Confederacy on a new basis that lends them a peculiar charm.

We may object to a statement made early in the book—namely, that Switzerland has no aristocracy. It has no more a feudal aristocracy, but the origin of several families still in existence with the prefix "von," or "de," was feudal. And these families, as well as those who up to 1830 were the heads of cantonal oligarchies, cling to their titles without ostentation. They have ceased to enjoy prerogatives of a political character, but they maintain their social traditions in a dignified and by no means offensive manner.

As an Englishman, Mr. Rook naturally dwells with a certain predilection on Geneva and its environs, where so many great men of Britain have left touching and indelible marks. But he exaggerates the importance of Voltaire for the intellectual development of Switzerland. The tendency of the so-called Philosopher of Ferney was mostly disintegrating for everything he dealt with. With the positive character of the Swiss such a negative element did not, and could not, obtain much foothold. Neither did Rousseau exert a powerful influence on the methods of education practically introduced by Pestalozzi. He and Lavater were men of profound religious sentiment, and the *Émile* was no guide to them. They respected Rousseau (as every honest thinker will), but what they did and wrote rested, above all, on the basis of Christian ideas, rather than on philosophic theory. In the review of scientific achievements by Swiss, in former centuries, we miss the great names of Conrad Gessner, Albrecht von Haller, and, also, proper mention of the city of Basle. Already in the sixteenth century Basle was the place where important geographic works, touching, also, upon America, were printed, and two centuries later the great names of Euler and the Bernoulli family attached the fame of Basle permanently to the world of mathematical and physical science. These are points of comparatively minor importance, and by no means impair the general value of the work.

The chapters on sport, chiefly winter sport, in Switzerland are entertaining, and particularly well illustrated. They furnish the author with an occasion to allude to climate and topography, in a manner not often found in analogous literature.

A. F. B.

Nearest the North Pole. A Narrative of the Polar Expedition of the Peary Arctic Club in the S.S. Roosevelt, 1905-1906. By R. E. Peary, U. S. N. xx and 411 pp., 99 Photographs, 2 Maps, a Frontispiece in colour by Albert Operti, and Index. Doubleday, Page & Company, New York, 1907.

Peary's latest book is a most valuable addition to Arctic literature. It is the